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Ayes—cont.

25. Mr. K. Krishnan.
26. ,, V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
27. ,, W. P. A. Soundarapandya Nadar.
28. ,, S. Subrahmanya Moopanar.
29. ,, S. Venkiah.
30. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
31. Mr. C. E. Wood.
32. ,, W. O. Wright.
33. ,, F. E. James.
34. ,, R. J. C. Robertson.
35. Rajkumar S. N. Dorai Raja.
36. Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udaiyar.
37. The Zamindar of Kallikota.
38. Mr. U. Ramaswami Ayyar.
39. The Zamindar of Gollapalli.
40. Mr. C. Gopala Menon.
41. ,, B. Ramachandra Reddi.
42. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.
43. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
44. ,, T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar.
45. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
46. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur.
47. Mr. Muhammad Khadir Mohideen Sahib.
48. Khan Sahib T. M. Moidu Sahib Bahadur.
49. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
50. Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.

Noes.

1. Mr. V. Ramjee Rao.
2. ,, P. C. Venkatapati Raju.
3. ,, R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
4. ,, S. Satyamurti.
5. ,, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
6. ,, J. A. Saldanha.
7. ,, G. Harisarvottama Rao.
8. ,, Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
9. ,, C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar.
10. ,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
11. ,, L. K. Tulasiram.
12. ,, K. V. R. Swami.
13. ,, D. Narayana Raju.
14. Dr. B. S. Mallayya.
15. Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar.
16. Mr. P. Anjaneyulu.
17. ,, A. Parasurama Rao.
18. ,, T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
19. ,, A. Kaleswara Rao.
20. ,, M. Narayana Rao.
21. ,, C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.
22. ,, C. Marudavanam Pillai.
23. ,, Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Sahib.
24. ,, C. Venkatarangam Nayudu.
25. ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
26. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
27. Mr. Ramnath Goenka.
28. ,, C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
29. ,, R. Nagan Gowda.

Neutral.

1. Mr. N. Siva Raj.
2. The Zamindar of Seithur.
3. Mr. P. Siva Rao.
4. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
5. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumarawami Reddiyar.
6. Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.

Ayes 50. Noes. 29. Neutral 6.

The motion was carried and the grant was made.

VI.

MOTION *re* SITTINGS AT OOTACAMUND OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE BROTHELS BILL.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Sir, I move—

' *that this Council authorizes the Select Committee appointed by it to report on the Bill for the Suppression of Brothels and Immoral Traffic (Bill No. 16 of 1928) to hold its sittings at Ootacamund, to hear witnesses and to draft the report.*'

" Sir, at the outset I may make it clear that I move this motion as the Chairman of the Committee at the instance of the hon. the President. I may inform the House that after the Select Committee was formed and it met twice or thrice, it decided to send a questionnaire to about sixty persons in the Presidency. About 29 of them have responded, and at a subsequent meeting of the Select Committee it was decided almost unanimously that all the witnesses who had answered the questionnaire should be called upon to attend for oral examination. It was practically on the last day of the last sitting of this Council that we had a meeting of the Select Committee, and it was at that meeting that we came to a decision that, in view of the fact that the Government

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Members would not find it convenient since they as well as the other Members of this Council had to consider the budget during the whole of this month, it would not be possible for them and the other Members of the Council to meet during the month of March for the purpose of examining the witnesses or to write the report. Therefore some of the Members suggested that the Committee might meet early in April. The Government Members said that it would not be possible for them to attend the meetings of the Select Committee if that Committee met at Madras, because it was suggested that His Excellency the Governor would be leaving Madras for Ootacamund on the 27th of this month and that the Members of the Executive Council might be called up to Ootacamund any day. They were not sure whether they would be in Madras during the first week of next month. Therefore it was suggested that if we could not meet in the month of April either at Madras or at Ootacamund, it would not be possible for us to draft the report in time for being presented at the next meeting of the Council. Therefore it was with the approval of the Members of the Government on the Select Committee, and I may say it was even at the suggestion of some of them and with the majority vote of the Committee, that it was decided that the Select Committee should meet in the first week of May next not only for hearing witnesses but also for preparing the report. Sir, I leave the matter to this House to decide whether it would permit the Select Committee to examine witnesses and also to make the report at Ootacamund or not, because it is the opinion of the President, and I may say I agree with him, that if the Select Committee that was formed by this House wished to meet in a place other than Madras, it should come before this House which appointed this Committee for its vote, so that not only the question of expenditure but also of the principle involved thereunder might be settled once for all. Therefore, Sir, I move this motion for the acceptance of the House."

* Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :-- "I second the motion, Sir."

* Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am afraid that this is a motion which we cannot accept. (Hear, hear.) There is a great deal that may be said from the Government benches in support of a motion which makes it convenient for the Government Members to remain in Ootacamund and transact business of this nature. There has been enough of time to discuss this particular Bill and the Committee might have done it in the time that was available till before the end of this month. Not having done it, they might have allowed matters to stand where they were till there was an opportunity to meet again. There is the other aspect of it also If a meeting were necesssary, it could be held in Madras and the few official Members who are on the Committee might come and attend the meeting here. None of these courses is followed and we are asked to vote upon a resolution which practically means the sanction of the expenditure necessary to take all the Members of the Select Committee at the expense of the public tax-payer to Ootacamund. It is already very heavy for the province to bear the expenses of the administration in this country and we are asked to be adding to that expenditure. I myself feel, Sir, that if any committee has to meet in Ootacamund, there should be no sanction from this House. It is not a small committee either. It is a committee consisting of about 30 members and if all these 30 members have to go on an exodus to the hills we will

have to bear the expenses of that exodus. (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: 'Many of us would get much less.') I know my hon. Friend from Coimbatore who is so near to Ootacamund may get less, but 30 or 32 members have to travel to Ootacamund and it is not right on principle to allow the select committees to exceed the limits of expenditure that should ordinarily be observed, and this is a case which must come within the ordinary rule. There is nothing very special especially with regard to this Bill that there should be such a hurry about it. I know it is a crying evil and we all wanted legislation as quickly as possible, but when there was an opportunity to have finished the work during the course of these long months that the Committee should have not done the work and that they should now come up through their Chairman with this motion is not reasonable. I would therefore say that a vote in favour of a meeting at Ootacamund appears to be more in the nature of an extravagance, and I do feel that such extravagances should not be permitted. Exodus to the hills should be minimised to the extent to which it may be minimised.

4 p.m. "We are every year spending lots of money on the exodus against our will and we ought not to be adding to that expenditure. I therefore oppose this motion made by my Friend the Member from Madras who explicitly told us that he was doing it as the Chairman of the Select Committee and he had no option except to do it because he held that office."

*Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"I rise to oppose this motion. The proposal is that not only the members of the Select Committee have to go to Ootacamund, but all the witnesses are to be examined at Ootacamund. I hear there are about 28 or 30 witnesses to be examined. All these witnesses are residents of Madras and they can very well be examined here. It is a surprise to hear that all these witnesses should be taken to Ootacamund at the expense of the tax-payer just to satisfy the whims and fancies of some members of the Select Committee. It does not stand to reason that these 28 or 30 witnesses should be taken all the way to Ootacamund and there examined by the Select Committee. We have heard of select committees meeting at places where they had to come into touch with local feelings. But here the Select Committee wants to go away from a place where only they can get into touch with the actual conditions which they are out to study. I suppose the House would vote down this motion unanimously."

*Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, one reason, and a very important reason, advanced for the proposition before the House is that the Members of the Government find it inconvenient to come down to Madras in April or very soon after to consider the provisions of the Bill. Sir, under ordinary circumstances, I should appeal to them to calculate the expenses which they would have to incur if the Select Committee was held firstly in Madras and then at Ootacamund. If it was restricted only to members of the Select Committee, it would be a matter of doubt which would have been a better or a more economical course. It is conceivable that the expenses might be equal in either case. But inasmuch as we have to examine 30 or more members as witnesses, I have no doubt whatsoever that the expenses of the enquiry would be far heavier were we to conduct it at Ootacamund rather than at Madras. I therefore appeal to the hon. the Home Member to reconsider his decision in the matter and to kindly see his way to come down to Madras and assist the members of the Select Committee in

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going through their work. He is as much interested in expediting the Bill as any. I therefore appeal to him and his Colleagues to make it convenient to come down here and expedite the work, as otherwise the House would vote against it."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am opposed to this motion, not only on account of the expenditure that would be incurred, but on account of the convenience of hearing witnesses at Madras. I think it is the duty of the members of the Select Committee, though it will be unpleasant, to visit those places which are considered to be disreputable. When this Bill was sent to the Mangalore Municipal Council for its opinion, they referred it to myself and they wanted to hear some witnesses. I said 'What is the use of hearing witnesses; you must visit those places.' We visited some places and saw a lot of things undreamt of before. This Committee should go out and find out for themselves the true state of affairs."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I presume that the hon. Member is aware that the standing order provides only for the examination of expert witnesses. There is no provision to visit any places."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I want to know who are the expert witnesses. It looks very funny to take the witnesses all the way to Ootacamund to find out what is going on in Madras. The Bill concerns itself primarily with the Madras City. I think the witnesses can be examined on the spot and the Committee can find out for themselves whether what is stated is true or not."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, at the last meeting of the Select Committee it was suggested that it would be rather difficult for members of the committee to come here and attend its meetings in April. But now there seems to be a good deal of difference of opinion. If it is possible for hon. Members to meet during the first week of April at Madras, we may sit for two weeks and finish our work. Anyhow I leave the question to the hon. Members to decide as they please. The Government will remain neutral."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"I withdraw in view of the fact that the Government are prepared to come down to Madras to attend the Select Committee meeting in the first and second week of April."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

VII

RESOLUTION UNDER SECTION 8 OF THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT, 1923.

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"Sir, I move—

'*This Council recommends to the Government that the following notification submitted to the Council for approval under section 8 of the Cotton Transport Act*, 1923 (*III of* 1923), *as amended by the Cotton Transport* (*Amendment*) *Act*, 1925 (*XXXIV of* 1925), *be issued by the Local Government in the form in which it has been so submitted* :—

Notification.

"*In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section* (2) *of section* 3 *of the Cotton Transport Act*, 1923 (*III of* 1923), *as amended by the Cotton Transport* (*Amendment*) *Act*, 1925 (*XXXIV of* 1925), *read with*